

1000] *Southern Italy circa 1000*
A.D.

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vento since 591; he himself was a man of great character, his territory was of wide extent, and the overthrow of the northern kingdom served to enhance his fame. Benevento was no mean successor to Pavia. Built where the Sabato and Galore unite, seated at the junction of the Via Appia and the Via Trajana, it was the gateway between Southern and Central Italy. The Arch of Trajan, the *Porta Aurea*, which had escaped ruin, was the natural boast of its citizens. Santa Sofia, built by Gisulf II., 732-749, harboured a famous school of philosophy; strong walls and a Lombard castle crowning the hill on which the city is built, secured its defences.

Arichis was able to stave off Charles with a tribute; he took the title of Prince in 774, was crowned and anointed by the bishops of his duchy, struck coins bearing his own effigy, and, as a final mark of independence, dated his acts by the year of his reign, Capua and Salerno were also his capitals; he fortified the latter and built in it a palace of great size and beauty to rival the *Sacrum Palatium* at Benevento. All South Italy was his except the Greek sea towns

and the duchy stretched from sea to sea.

Among those who sought an asylum with the great Duke, appeared Paul the Deacon, a Lombard patriot and the greatest man of letters among all his race. After the overthrow of King Desiderius at Pavia he came south to Benevento to adorn the court of Arichis, and after his patron's